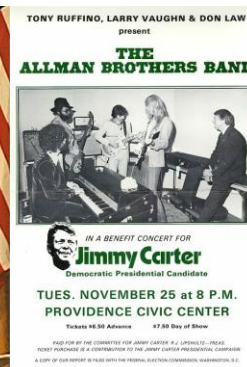




THE
Jimmy Carter
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Grades 2-5



NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

What's the Secret, Jimmy? Is it...

To find the secret to President Carter's extraordinary life, we will discuss his:

- Early Life (1924-1943)
- Adult Life (1943-1963)
- Political Life (1963-1981)
- Post-Presidency (1981-Today)

Right: President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter wave to supporters and others attending an Inaugural Ball, 1/20/1977 (National Archives Identifier: [173391](#))



Early Life

(1924-1943)



Right: Jimmy Carter with his dog Bozo, 1937 (National Archives Identifier: [593560](#))

...An Extraordinary Parent?

Lillian Carter

- Made Jimmy the 1st President born in a hospital
- Ignored rules of racial segregation
- Volunteered to be a nurse in India at the age of 68
- Jimmy's BIGGEST fan

Left: Lillian Carter on the family farm with daughter Ruth, and son Jimmy, Archery, Georgia (Carter Library) **Right:** Lillian Carter celebrates her son Jimmy's victory in the 1976 Presidential Election (Carter Library)



...An Extraordinary Home?



- Built 1922, Carters move in 1928
- No running water; electricity comes later with New Deal's [Rural Electrification Act](#)
- Now a part of [Jimmy Carter National Historical Park](#) in Archery, Georgia

Left: Jimmy Carter's Boyhood Home in Archery, Georgia (National Park Service)

What do we use
electricity for in
our homes today?
How about water?
Could you live like
Jimmy did?





...Hard Work at Home & School?

- Awoke “An Hour Before Daylight” for farm chores that were “*closer to the stone age than modern farming*”
- Consistently earned “A” grades in *most* subjects
- An entrepreneur, sold peanuts & ice cream in town



Right: Jimmy Carter on the family farm as a boy (Carter Library)**Far**

Right: Jimmy Carter's First Grade Report Card (Carter Library)

REPORT OF																	
<i>Carter, Jimmy</i>																	
MONTHS	1	2	3	4	Ex	Avg	5	6	7	8	9	Ex	Avg	Y	a	v	
DAYS PRESENT.	20	20	20	20		80	20	20	20	20			80	16	0		
TIMES TARDY.	1	0	a	0		1		1					2	3			
CONDUCT	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a			
SPELLING	2	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a			
READING	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a			
WRITING	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a			
ARITHMETIC	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a			
GRAMMAR	B	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a			
LANGUAGE																	
GEOGRAPHY	a	a	a	a		a								a			
HISTORY							a	a	a	a				a	w		
HEALTH	a	a	a	a		a	a	a	a	a			a	a			
DRAWING																	
MUSIC	a	a	a	a		a	c	b	a	c			B	a			
AGRICULTURE																	
Total		2x	2x	2x			2x	2x	2x	2x			2x	2x			

Parents please examine, sign and return.

- 1 J.E. Carter
- 3 H.C. Carter
- 5 G.B. Carter
- 7 J.G. Carter

- 2 B. Carter
- 4 F. Carter
- 6 J.F. Carter
- 8 J.H. Carter

 9

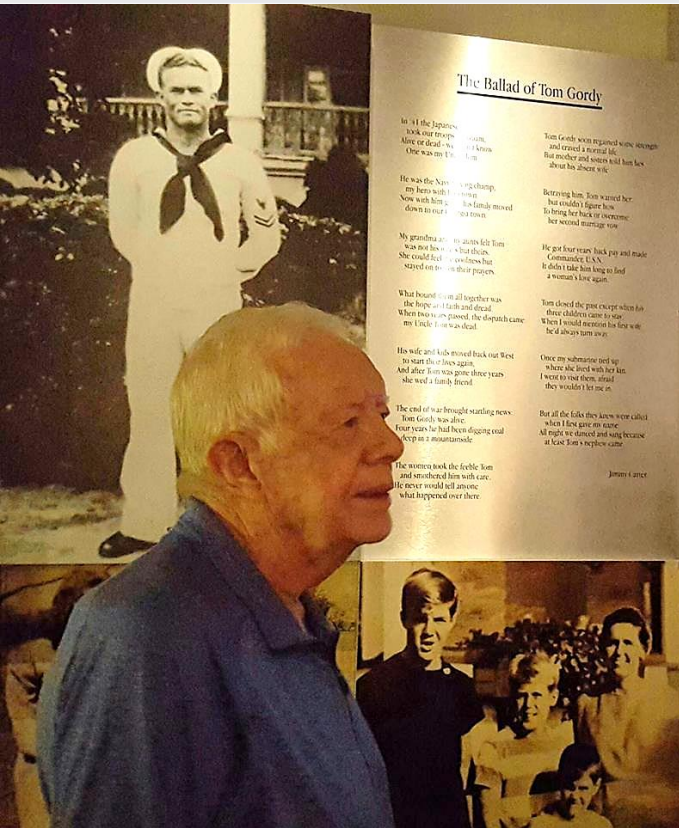


Adult Life

(1943-1963)

Left: Rosalynn Carter and Jimmy Carter on their wedding day, 7/7/1946 (Carter Family Photos)

...Being Inspired to Learn More?



- After graduating high school, Carter attends junior college
- He's inspired to join the Navy by his Uncle Tom Gordy
- Carter is accepted at the best naval school in the country in Annapolis, MD

Left: Jimmy Carter stands in front of a portrait of his uncle Tom Gordy, who was a prisoner of war during World War II, on display at Andersonville National Historic Site in Georgia (NPS Photo) Right: Jimmy Carter at the U.S. Naval Academy, 1943-1946 (Carter Library)

...and Serving in Our Military?

- Serves as commander of a nuclear-powered submarine, *USS K-1*
- Chosen for a special program building nuclear-powered engines for submarines
- Served in both the Atlantic & Pacific Ocean fleets of the Navy from 1947 to 1953

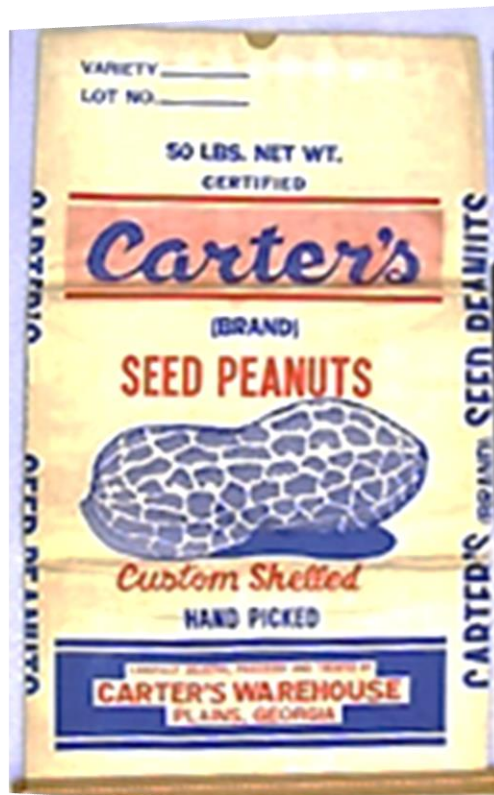
Right: Lieutenant James Earl "Jimmy" Carter in main control room of USS K-1 ([Naval History and Heritage Command](#))



What do people in
our military give
up or sacrifice to
keep our nation
safe?



...Running a Family Business?



- After father's passing in 1953, Jimmy leaves active duty to take over family peanut farm, warehouse and store in Plains, GA
- The Carters only makes \$250 profit their first year but quickly learn the business
- Carter builds strong community relationships, inspired to enter politics (Lions Club, Sumter Co. School Board, Library Board, Future Farmers of America)

Left: Jimmy Carter and sons Jeff and Chip riding on a tractor (Carter Family Photos) Right: A bag of seed peanuts that would have been sold at Carter's Warehouse in Plains, Georgia (Carter Library)

Political Life

(1963-1981)

*Right: The White House, 1/15/1977 (National Archives Identifier:
[6384319](#))*



...Running for Public Office?

- Elected to Georgia State Senate in 1963
- Loses first run for Georgia Governor in 1966, tries again and wins second time in 1970

Left: Campaign poster for one of Jimmy Carter's successful runs for the Georgia State Senate. (Carter Library) *Right:* Jimmy Carter shaking hands with voters while running for Georgia governor (Carter Library)



...Having Really Close Friends?

The Peanut Brigade

- Dedicated volunteers including family, friends & neighbors who helped Carter get his message out to more voters in more places than any other presidential candidate
- Named for Carter's time as a Peanut Farmer in Georgia

Left: Members of Jimmy Carter's Presidential Campaign Staff came to be known as the "Peanut Brigade" for their support of Carter who operated a peanut farm and distribution business in rural Georgia (Carter Library)



...Learning From Others?

- Carter builds upon work of Presidents before him like Gerald Ford & Richard Nixon
- Establishes Diplomatic Relations with China, the “*most significant accomplishment*” of his presidency

Right: Deng Xiaoping and Jimmy Carter meeting in Washington following the normalization of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and China, 1/29/1979 (National Archives Identifier: [183165](#))



Why do you think
it's important
for world leaders
to speak with
each other?



...Protecting Parks, Forests & Wildlife?



- Carter protects more than 100 million acres of land during his 4 years as President
- Creates 34 new national parks, forests, monuments & wildlife refuges
- Made Honorary National Park Ranger in 2016 in hometown of Plains, Georgia

Left: For his contributions to conservation as President, Jimmy Carter is made an honorary National Park Ranger by the National Park Service, 4/17/2016 (NPS Photo)

What's your
favorite
thing to do at
the park?



...Helping Friends Make Peace?

Camp David Accords

- Invites leaders of Egypt & Israel to the U.S. to make peace
- After 12 days of failures, succeeds on 13th day
- Ends more than 40 years of war, makes sure Egypt & Israel will keep talking with each other
- Both countries have remained at peace through today

*Left: Jimmy Carter and Menachem Begin with members of the Israeli delegation at Camp David, 09/17/1978
(National Archives Identifier: [181417](#))*

Post- Presidency (1981-Today)

Right: President and Mrs. Carter leave a polling center near Juba, South Sudan after observing voting during the referendum, 01/29/2011 (The Carter Center)



...Protecting Human Rights?



Extraordinary Concern

- With Rosalynn, founds non-profit [Carter Center](#)
- Dedicated to waging peace, fighting disease, building hope
- Health and Human Rights programs in 80 countries

Left: Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter comforts six-year-old Ruhama Issah at Savelugu Hospital as Adams Bawa, a Carter Center technical assistant dresses her Guinea worm wound, 2/8/2007 (Carter Center/Louise Gubb)

What are some
things you
can't do when
you're sick?



...Living a Very Long Life?



- Defeated brain cancer at 92 years of age
- Longest-living President in U.S. History (born October 1, 1924)
- Longest-married Presidential Couple (July 7, 1946 to today)

Left: 2016 presidential candidate and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, former first lady Rosalynn Carter, former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton at their 75th wedding anniversary celebration, 7/7/2021 (Carter Center)

“I have one life and one chance to make it count for something...My faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I am, whenever I can, for as long as I can with whatever I have to try to make a difference.”

- Jimmy Carter -



Or is This Jimmy's Secret?



Jimmy Carter greets residents of South Bronx, New York, 10/5/1977 (National Archives Identifier: [176402](#))

Follow-Up Activity

What Primary Sources Will Tell Your Extraordinary Life Story?

1. Review the presentation, paying close attention to the different types of primary sources highlighting President Carter's Life (photograph, video, written document, artifact, artwork, etc.)
2. Thinking about what or who you want to be when you grow up, imagine examples of photographs, artifacts, documents, posters, artwork, audio or film that will exist for researchers to access to learn your life story; these can be actual sources that already exist, or theoretical ones in the future.
3. Choose one of these sources that means a lot to you and either create it, or if it already exists, provide a copy for submission to be shared with the class (physical or digital format acceptable).
4. Students will choose two of their classmates' primary sources and complete the appropriate [Document Analysis Worksheet](#) for their skill level and source type, followed by group discussion.



Further Inquiry

Online Student and Educator Resources

Carter Library on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#)

[Frequently Requested Carter Research Topics](#)

[Carter Library Museum Virtual Tour](#)

[Carter Library Teacher Resources](#)

[Carter Library Professional Development](#)

[The Carter Center Teacher Resource Center](#)

[Jimmy Carter National Historical Park Teacher Resources](#)

[National Archives Educator Resources](#)

[DocsTeach](#)